MARKETBEAT Ottawa, ON

Office Q4 2023



(Direct Asking Rent, All Property Classes)

ECONOMIC INDICATORS Q4 2023



4.6% Ottawa Unemployment Rate

5.8%

Canadian Unemployment Rate

Source: Statistics Canada

ECONOMY

The Canadian unemployment rate remained steady at 5.8% in December 2023, marking a contrast to the increases observed in five of the previous seven months. From April to November, there was a cumulative rise of 80 basis points in the unemployment rate. In December, the number of unemployed individuals reached 1.2 million, reflecting an increase of 202,000 compared to the same period 12 months earlier. The professional, scientific, and technical services sector saw a notable boost in employment, with a gain of 46,000 jobs in December, following a period of minimal change in the three preceding months. This uptick represented the second monthly increase in this industry for 2023, the initial one being a rise of 52,000 jobs in August. On a year-over-year basis, employment in this sector saw a surge of 78,000 jobs in December. *Source: Statistics Canada*

DEMAND

In the final quarter of 2023, Ottawa's office market experienced a further decline, albeit at a somewhat reduced rate compared to earlier quarters. During this period, the overall vacancy rate eclipsed the 12% mark. Ottawa's return-to-office rate continues to trail behind all major Canadian office markets. A recent survey by the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada (PIPSC) has revealed that 70% of respondents expressed discontent with the implementation of the return-to-office policy. PIPSC called for a more modern workplace that prioritizes flexibility, well-equipped workspaces, and employee well-being. Numerous landlords in Ottawa, especially in the downtown area, are tackling vacancy challenges by offering more enticing incentives to potential tenants. Moreover, there is a growing trend among them to incorporate office model suites as part of their strategy to appeal to prospective tenants.

PRICING

Even with rising vacancy rates and a net decline in occupied office space, the pricing of office space in Ottawa has demonstrated resilience by holding a relatively consistent trajectory. Unless there is a substantial reduction in available office space within Ottawa, the prevailing market dynamics are poised to exert a downward influence on the advertised rental rates.

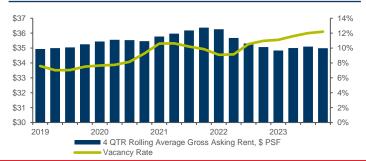
SPACE DEMAND / DELIVERIES



OVERALL VACANCY & GROSS DIRECT ASKING RENT

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MARKET STATISTICS

SUBMARKET	INVENTORY (SF)	SUBLET VACANT (SF)	DIRECT VACANT (SF)	OVERALL VACANCY RATE	CURRENT QTR OVERALL NET ABSORPTION	YTD OVERALL ABSORPTION (SF)	YTD LEASING ACTIVITY (SF)	UNDER CNSTR (SF)	OVERALL AVG ASKING RENT (ALL CLASSES)*	OVERALL AVG ASKING RENT (CLASS A)*
Downtown Core	18,535,761	304,109	1,836,670	11.5%	-33,810	-354,757	419,957	-	\$38.66	\$48.27
Centretown	1,202,664	12,110	158,854	14.2%	-3,262	11,099	58,611	-	\$30.06	\$32.90
Lowertown / Sandy Hill	858,207	16,146	201,338	25.3%	2,520	3,292	13,925	-	\$35.15	\$41.05
Glebe / Main	255,845	0	24,600	9.6%	20,083	7,837	41,692	-	\$32.95	N/A
Central Dispersed	259,631	0	76,091	29.3%	-24,131	0	0	-	N/A	N/A
CENTRAL AREA TOTALS	21,112,108	332,365	2,297,553	12.5%	-38,601	-332,529	534,185	-	\$37.51	\$47.52
Ottawa West	9,377,605	113,703	719,991	8.9%	12,999	-160,477	447,650	-	\$31.22	\$36.27
Ottawa Deep West	6,653,446	139,079	761,529	13.5%	-18,716	-44,506	434,003	-	\$27.53	\$27.11
SUBURBAN WEST TOTALS	16,031,051	252,782	1,481,521	10.8%	-6,717	-204,983	881,653	-	\$30.06	\$30.76
Ottawa South	496,830	4,103	55,153	11.9%	-16,160	-20,963	71,666	-	\$34.00	\$34.00
Ottawa East	5,720,411	32,530	825,303	15.0%	-58,761	-96,238	186,299	-	\$33.91	\$35.06
TOTAL SUBURBAN TOTALS	22,248,292	289,415	2,361,977	11.9%	-80,628	-322,184	1,139,618	-	\$31.78	\$33.19
OTTAWA TOTALS	43,360,400	621,780	4,659,530	12.2%	-119,229	-654,713	1,673,803	-	\$34.63	\$39.13

KEY LEASE TRANSACTIONS Q4 2023

PROPERTY	SUBMARKET	Tenant	DEAL TYPE	SF
425 Legget Drive	Kanata North	Undisclosed	Direct	58,205
4000 Innovation Drive	Kanata North	Undisclosed	Direct	44,990
350 Albert Street	Central Business District	Undisclosed	Direct	20,288

KEY SALES TRANSACTIONS Q4 2023

PROPERTY	SUBMARKET	SELLER / BUYER	SF	PRICE / \$PSF
1140 – 1150 Morrison Drive	Ottawa West Dispersed	Crown Property / Oakview Capital Inc	95,000	\$14,250,000 / \$150
90 Bill Leathem	Barrhaven	Enbridge Gas Inc / 2782755 Ontario Inc	26,000	\$8,500,000 / \$327
890-894 Boyd Avenue	Ottawa West Dispersed	Paul Ziebarth Holdings / 1496381 Ontario Inc	8,890	\$2,750,000 / \$309
25 York Street	Lowertown / Sandy Hill	1111145 BC LTD / 1000672244 Ontario Inc	4,874	\$2,750,000 / \$564

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